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DATE: December 9, 2003

TO: Art Unit 3654

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FROM: KIRK M. HARTUNG

NUMBER OF PAGES (Including cover): 4

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Please file the attached INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND  
PTO/SA08B for:

APPLICANT : SHOJI, Katsuji  
SERIAL NO : 10/654,554  
FILED : September 3, 2003  
TITLE : SELF-LOCKING REDUCTION DEVICE

Grp./A.U. : 3654  
Examiner :  
Conf. No. : 5104  
Docket No. : P05478US01

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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. P05478US01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: SHOJI, Katsuji Group Art Unit: 3654  
SERIAL NO: 10/654,554 Examiner:  
FILED: September 3, 2003 Confirmation No: 5104  
TITLE: SELF-LOCKING REDUCTION DEVICE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
FILED WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR  
BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first office action after the filing of a request for continued examination, whichever event occurs last.

Attached are Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) listing the relevant art known to the applicant herein. The Examiner is requested to consider the references and make them of record. This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application Serial No. 10/020,806, filed on December 12, 2001. Each of the references listed on Forms PTO/SB08A and 08B were submitted to, and/or cited by, the Patent

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Date: 12/9/03

Kirk M. Hartung  
KIRK M. HARTUNG

Office in the prior application(s) and, therefore, are not required to be provided in this application.

Applicant discloses herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose. Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement, except those identified above.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Respectfully submitted,



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| (Use as many sheets as necessary)                        |   |                        |                   |
| Sheet  | 1 | of                     | 1                 |
|  |   | Application Number     | 10/654,554        |
|  |   | Filing Date            | September 3, 2003 |
|  |   | First Named Inventor   | SHJI, Katsuji     |
|  |   | Art Unit               | 3654              |
|  |   | Examiner Name          |                   |
|  |   | Attorney Docket Number | P05478US01        |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

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